

USATF MTF Exec Committee Meeting

Outdoor Championships, Ames, Iowa, July 11, 2019

Agenda items

International Uniforms Issues

Physiotherapists at WMA meets; possibility of additional paid for by athletes

Welcome to athletes transferring to represent USA

Announcement of Cheryl Bellaire's appointment to WMA Anti-Doping Committee

Possibility of separate team scoring for men and women

Proposal to not allow unattached athletes to displace club athletes in team scoring

Expense reimbursements

Jeff Brower report on Records status and Ratification of records if required

Update on new USATF website

Report on recent discussions with the National Office

World #1 Program and its Future

Potential Bidders for 2022 Indoor and Outdoor Championships

Sue Hallen report on Throws activities and details of upcoming Throws Championships

Geo Melichar report on Inclusion activities and services at Ames Championships



Attendees

Rex Harvey – MTF Chair

Jerry Bookin-Weiner – MTF Vice-Chair

Amanda Scotti – MTF Secretary

Chris Pasko – USATF Board Member

Sandy Triolo – Communications Chair

Latashia Key – Active Athlete Representative

George Mathews – Northwest Region Chair

Christel Donley – MidAmerica Region Chair representative

Bill Murray – Southeast Region Chair

Mark Cleary – West Region Chair

Robert Thomas – Midwest Region Chair

Mike Travers – East Region Chair

Sue Hallen – Throwing Events Subcommittee Chair

Jim Flanik - Championships Games

Rachel Guest – Awards Subcommittee Chair

Sandy Pashkin – Exec. Committee Chair Appointee

Linda Carty – Masters Exhibition Events Chair

Cheryl Bellaire – WMA Anti-Doping

Roger Vergin – Rankings Subcommittee Chair

Marilyn Mitchell – Hall of Fame Make-up Class Task Force Chair

Bob Weiner – Exec. Committee Chair Appointee

Jim Pearce – Club Task Force Chair

Len Krask – Officials Representative on the USATF Board

Elizabeth Guarneri – USATF MTF Liaison

Megan Fillipi – Ames Sports Commission

Sam Wilson - Guest

Rita Hanscom - Guest

- Rex Harvey opened the meeting by discussing a couple of snafus that occurred at the Outdoor Championships earlier in the day: 1- that an athlete (Bob King) was given an incorrect 5k lap count and that there had been a missing wind gauge for some events. As a consolation to King, MTF will offer him free entry next year.

This is an administrative chore that Rex Harvey will take care of. Also from the meet, the announcers were doing a fantastic job thanks in part to Jay Wind's and Sandy Triolo's masters spread sheets containing athlete info.

- Bill Murray, asked by athlete Rita Hanscom, proposed requesting a WMA rule change, allowing women to compete in the Decathlon by striking out the word "Men" in the rules. The process entails USATF MTF making a recommendation to NCCWMA first.

Discussion:

Sandy Pashkin spoke against the idea saying that if the word "Men" was stricken, then the word "Women" would have to be stricken from the Heptathlon rules.

Rita Hanscom spoke to the issue saying that allowing only men to compete in the Decathlon is a remnant of outdated thinking. She would like to see women be allowed to join in with the existing Decathlon, along with the men.

Sandy Pashkin noted that the adding women to the Decathlon would mean adding men to the Heptathlon and Pentathlon. Bill Murray replied that that was not the request or proposal.

Motion by Bill Murray: Propose the word “Men” be struck from the WMA Decathlon rules.

Seconded Vote: Ayes, Unanimous, Nays, one by Sandy Pashkin

Bill Murray is on Competition Committee and will present this to NCCWMA

- A proposal was made by email by an athlete to no longer allow unattached athletes to displace team members points at national championships.

Discussion:

Robert Thomas pointed out that our Championships is not a club meet

Sandy Pashkin stated that the meet is not scored in the same way as a Cross Country meet, which has team scoring. In MTF Championships points are awarded to the place. The individuals get the points, not the club. Whatever points members of a team earn by their placing, the club is allocated. The negative side affect, pointed out by Sue Hallen would be that clubs would search for “garbage points” to earn higher team scores.

Motion by Bill Murray: Recommend taking this matter up at the annual meeting and after that, that it cannot be brought up again for four years (or more).

Seconded by Robert Thomas Vote: Ayes, Unanimous, Nays, zero

- A proposal was made to separate the Men’s and Women’s teams scoring at MTF national championships.

Discussion:

Mark Cleary stated this has been brought up in the past. He feels it disincentivises athletes from joining certain clubs.

Jim Pearce disagreed, saying it may create more club participation

Motion made to add awards for; Men’s teams, Women’s team, Combined teams to begin with the next Indoor Championships

Seconded Vote: Ayes, Unanimous, Nays, one by Mike Travers

- Elizabeth Guarneri spoke about uniform expectations for next summer’s Outdoor WMA Championships. She said she was optimistic there would be enough Rio uniforms for Toronto 2020. It was projected that there could be 400+ new people needing uniforms. People may have to accept second and third choices, however. There will also be more short sleeve USA T-shirts as those are being pulled out of the kits to provide to athletes who need some sort of uniform top. Beginning in 2021, WMA Indoors, there will be a completely new uniform distributed. Uniforms will no longer be provided for NCCWMA championships, World meets only.

Jerry Bookin-Weiner emphasized that these uniforms are not made to last, not durable, and should be saved for world meets use only.

- Physiotherapists – the three available in Poland were not enough. For NCCWMA in Toronto, only two are available. The athletes are going to have to contribute to the cost of these trainers.

MTF needs to find a way to limit service.

A punch card system was proposed.

- Rex Harvey announced some of the athletes who now compete for the USA who previously could not. More are being added. He also announced that Cheryl Bellaire had been appointed to the WMA Anti-doping Committee. She was recommended by Dr. Steve Peters and the WMA Council approved her appointment.

- The new USATF Travel Rules were discussed. There have been concerns as the new rules state that if the traveller books airfare rather than via the USATF travel dept. the reimbursement will only be for the value of a 21-day advance purchase fare. However, TA’s are not given in time to take advantage of flight availability. Chris Pasko said that he is helping with TA issues.

- Records ratification. The Records subcommittee chair was not present.

A Motion was made to ratify all the recommended records.

Seconded Vote: Ayes, Unanimous

- Sandy Triolo, Communications Subcommittee Chair, discussed the new website plans.

Rex, Jerry, Sandy went to Indy to view new website. The old membership system database is too out of date. The new site will be phased in in 2020. USATF wants all the MTF info to be found on the site.... Not sure that’s what we (MTF) want. The current plan is for MTF to keep their independent site for a while and move it if it’s in the best interest of MTF. There were questions about how much, if any, control MTF would have over adding content, that was not yet determined.

- Sponsorships. Renee and Max are working on sponsorships. There is a possibility of a sponsor interested in MTF but they would require that TF and LDR merge.

- World #1 Program. The program needs a major sponsor (see above).

The next time that the program will likely be implemented is in 2022 as we will have plenty of US athletes attending the 2020 Toronto WMA Outdoor and 2021 Edmonton Indoor meets.

Jerry Bookin-Weiner added that we might consider awarding medal money (at a reduced level) at the 2020 WMA Outdoors

- 2022 Indoor US Championships potential bidders.

Virginia Beach, VA is interested. They have a new facility with a hydraulic track). Spokane WA is also interested and also has a new facility with a banked hydraulic track. Houston, TX is interested but the throws area is a concern. Spokane is bidding on both the WMA Indoor (2023) and NCCWMA meet (2021).

- 2022 Outdoors US Championships potential bidders. The University of Kentucky (Lexington) and Salt Lake City (BYU) have expressed interest.

- Mark Cleary gave an update on the Hall of Fame processes. He would like to see around 6 inducted annually from a list of around 12-15 ballot names. Currently, he has a pretty good list.

- Marilyn Mitchell said that compiling a list of athletes to consider for the "Make up" Hall of Fame class will take more time.

- Sue Hallen gave a Throws update saying that originally it was thought that the 4k weights were thought to be missing at this meet; however, they were found so those age groups will throw Saturday. This illustrates that meet inventory should be thorough and done early. Rex Harvey said that more Pelican boxes (smaller ones) are being purchased. The 2018 Throws Awards will be presented at the Throws Champs in Lisle, IL. Venues for future Champs are being sought, the one in Ames would be ideal.

- Geo Melichar couldn't make it to the meeting due to bad weather/canceled flights so there was no Inclusion committee report.

- Roger Vergin, of the Rankings Subcommittee reported that with the Rankings there was nothing new to report. Rex Harvey stressed the importance of continued support to John Seto. He also pointed out that MTF supports both National Masters News and the Rankings but that LDR contributes nothing to either.

- Linda Carty, MEE Subcommittee Chair detailed the upcoming event at the Open Championships in Des Moines at the end of July. The men's' lanes were filled and there was actually a waiting list. The women had seven confirmed. She stated that at this time the MEE races will all be short (Sprints), and she would like to further negotiate re age ranges.

- Mike Travers gave a report on the recent Super Regional Championships meet (the SE and East Regions combined). It was a two-day event in Maryland with 327 entries and several records.

Meeting adjourned